

NRO - Funding 70-B-511 TS
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19 March 1963

Memo for Exec Dir. Thru: DD/R Subj: NRO Funding
From: John A. Bross, Comptroller

Mr. Bross believed more ~~xxx~~ advantageous to include in the CIA budget the amount required for CIA to perform NRO-assigned projects as reimbursements from DOD.

Wld relieve Agency of supporting Congressional presentation for new obligational authority of

Defense and BOB in favor of centralized programming, budgeting and funding for NRO. Interests of Agency would not be adversely affected by acquiescence in this arrangement provided the fund rqmts for Agency projects are clearly identified and administered by CIA.

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"Accordingly, it is my personal recommendation that NRO budget for the entire NRP and that CIA reflect in its budget, on a reimbursement basis, specific projects assigned to it for administration. I recognize, however, that in the last analysis the DD/R is responsible for administering the NRO projects assigned to CIA. Accordingly, I will defer to his ultimate views and am attaching drafts of two instructions; one to provide for direct appropriations to CIA for Agency administered NRO projects and the second one for NRO budgeting for the entire NRP with reimbursements to CIA on Agency administered projects. When a final Agency policy on this has been established, appropriate Agency officials should discuss the proposed instructions with the DNRO."

/s/ John A. Bross - Comptroller

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views on Bross memo.

Mr. Bross's approach to problem not altogether desirable one because it seems to presume that past experience of not being able to work cooperatively and agreeably with NRO precludes any satisfactory future arrangement unless we agree to receive our funds on a reimbursable basis. He believed that while money matters have been an integral part of our problem, the greater problem had been one of "responsibility without corresponding authority."

He suggested that a senior CIA Programs Officer be assigned to NRO as of help in coordinating the technical problems of contracting and production with NRO.